



Newsletter

September 2016

LAST MONTH'S MYSTERY OBJECT



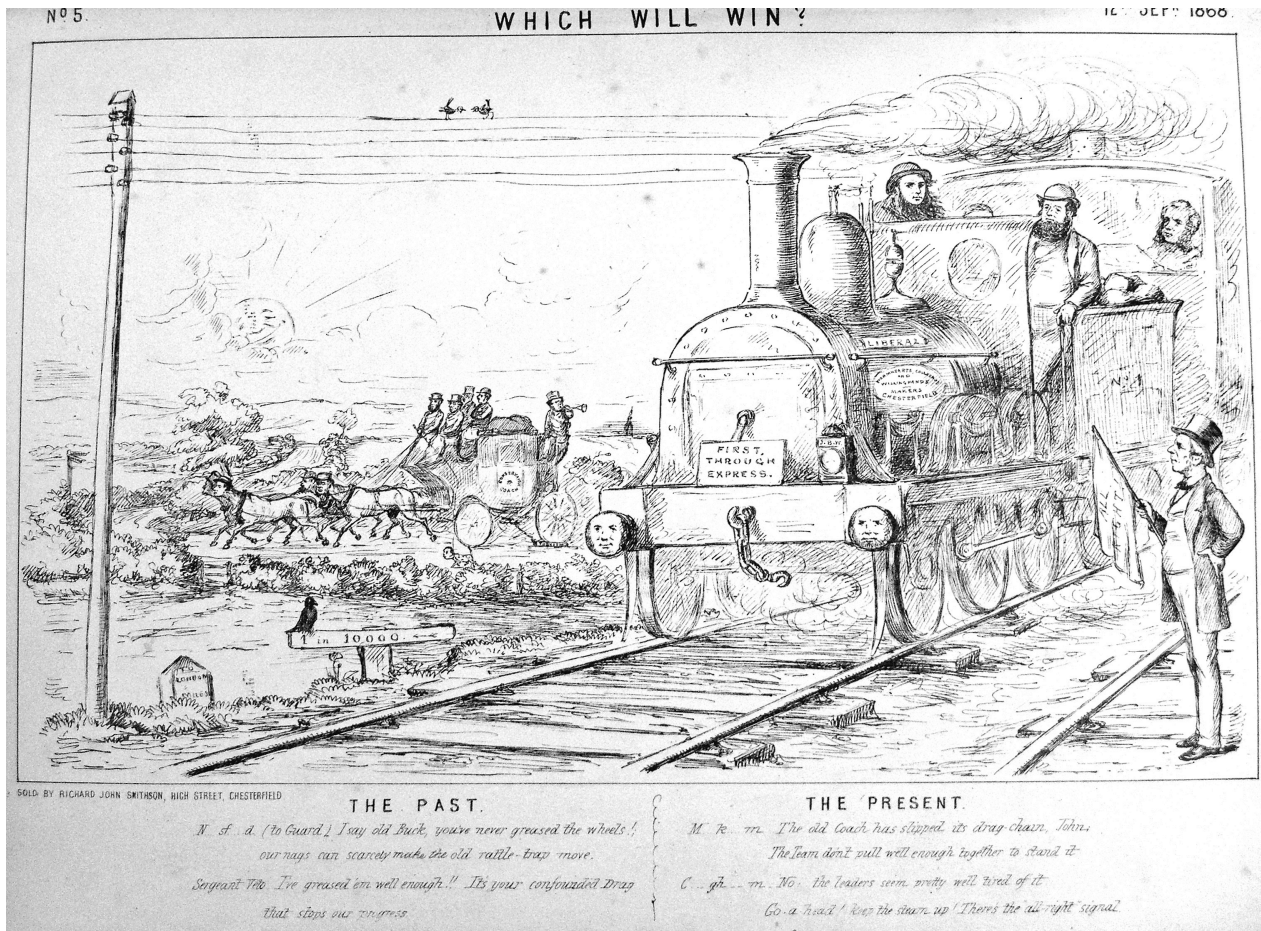
The mystery object is an iodine diffuser which enabled iodine vapour to be used in the treatment of goitre and also as an aerial disinfectant.

Goitre is a disorder of the thyroid gland caused by a diet deficient in iodine. Known locally as Derbyshire neck it was prevalent in this area because of a deficiency of iodine in the soil at a time when most food was produced locally. It was almost entirely eradicated in Chesterfield thanks to the efforts of Dr Goodfellow, medical officer of health for the urban district of Brampton and Walton until 1911, when he retired because of ill health. He returned to the district in 1922 to continue his research work which led to local chemists selling iodised salt to add iodine to the diet. He was also convinced of the possibilities of iodine as an aerial disinfectant to combat infections such as influenza. Through his connections with Oldfield pottery he was able to launch the Xodo locket in 1932. Most of the locket was glazed allowing a small dose of the iodine vapour to escape through the unglazed area. Iodized salt. The locket was designed to be worn under the clothes. A year later, the mushroom diffusers (illustrated above) were introduced. The baby version was for use in bedrooms and nurseries and the larger version was for use in banks, cinemas and in 1933 on buses.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesday October 18 th From Slums to Homes Fit For Heroes Janet Murphy	Tuesday November 15 th The Social History of Railways Godfrey Holmes	Tuesday 13 th December Members Evening
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THE CHESTERFIELD CROW CARTOONS



This cartoon from the 1868 election has striking parallels with today nearly 150 years on.

The Midland Railway in Chesterfield opened in Chesterfield in 1846 but, because of the difficult terrain between Chesterfield and Sheffield, the line continued northwards to the east of Sheffield as did the line originally proposed for HS2, which had the station for Sheffield at Meadowhall. The pressure for a direct route came from Sheffield. Today not everyone is happy about the proposal for Chesterfield becoming part of the Sheffield City Region. In the 1860s not everyone in Chesterfield was happy about the idea of a direct line, the fear being that once a direct line was opened then people might choose to travel to the market in Sheffield to shop rather than the market in Chesterfield. The market was a vital part of the Chesterfield economy being the Council's major source of income at a time shortly after the opening of the new Market Hall. Work started on the direct line in 1866 and it was opened 1st February 1870.

The Liberal engine has Charles Markham (senior) and John Cottingham (agent to the Duke of Devonshire) on the footplate with the candidates Henry Strutt and Francis Edgerton (only the top of his head is visible) as passengers. The left hand buffer represents the Revd F Bishop, Unitarian Minister and the right Charles North, High Bailiff at Chesterfield County Court; J.B.W. on the lamp is J.B. White wine and spirit merchant and holding the ALL RIGHT flag is C.S. Busby. The manufacturer's plate reads *WARM HEARTS COOLHEADS AND WILLING HANDS MAKERS CHESTERFIELD.*

Representing THE PAST, the driver of the Conservative Coach is R.S. Nesfield of Bakewell, agent to the Duke of Rutland, who is complaining to his guard that the wheels have not been greased to whom the guard replies that it is the drag of Toryism which is retarding the coach. Representing THE PRESENT Cottingham is urging Markham to go ahead in response to the ALL RIGHT signal.

PLEASE NOTE THAT FUTURE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH

ENTRY FROM ROSE HILL